

# Consumer Confidence Report Checklist for Water System: \_\_\_\_\_

## I. Source of the Water Delivered

- A. Type of water: e.g., surface water, groundwater.
- B. Commonly used name and location.
- C. Information on Source Water Assessments:
  1. Availability and means to obtain.
  2. Encouraged: Summary of system's susceptibility to potential sources of contamination.
  3. Optional: discuss wellhead protection program here.

*"The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All of the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old."*

2. MCL expressed as a number equal to or greater than 1.0, or indicate that it is a TT or specify the AL.
3. MCLG expressed in the same units as the MCL.
4. The likely source(s) of detected contaminants.
5. Results of detected regulated contaminants that are sampled annually or less frequently:
  - a Highest level detected.
  - b Range of detected levels.
6. Results of detected regulated contaminants whose MCL is determined by calculating running annual average:
  - a **Highest** running annual average used for compliance.
  - b Range of detected levels.
7. Results of detected unregulated monitoring, but not including cryptosporidium):
  - a Average level detected.
  - b Range of detected levels.
  - c May also include a brief explanation of the reasons for monitoring for unregulated contaminants such as:

*"Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where these contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants".*

8. Turbidity measurements:
  - a Highest single measurement.
  - b Lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits.
  - c May also explain reasons for measuring turbidity such as:

*"Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system."*

9. Lead and copper results:
  - a The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile values of the most recent round of sampling.
  - b The number of sampling sites exceeding the action level.
  - c Health effects language of lead if a sample detected lead above the action level.
10. Microbial contaminants results:
  - a The highest monthly number of positive samples if collecting <40 samples per month.
  - b The highest monthly percentage of total coliform-positive samples if collecting >40 samples per month.
  - c The total number of fecal or E.coli -positive samples.

11. The table must clearly identify violations of MCLs/TT.

## D. Additional Monitoring

1. Results of **cryptosporidium** monitoring, if detected, performed to satisfy the requirements of §141.143.

## II. Definitions (list only those terms used in the report)

- A. Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: "The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety."
- B. Maximum Contaminant Level (mandatory): "The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology."
- C. Variance and Exemptions
- D. Treatment Technique: "A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water."
- E. Action Level: "The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow."
- F. "Maximum residual disinfectant level goal" or "MRDLG" means the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- G. "Maximum residual disinfectant level" or "MRDL" means the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- H. Units of measure (recommended)

## III. Table of only detected contaminants for which monitoring is required by §141.40, §141.142 and §141.143

- A. Required Data:
  1. Regulated contaminants (subject to an MCL, MRDL, action level, or treatment technique)
  2. Unregulated contaminants.
  3. Disinfection by-products or microbial contaminants (conducted under ICR), except Cryptosporidium.
- B. Format:
  1. One table or several adjacent tables of results of contaminants detected. Results of contaminants not detected, if displayed, or results of voluntary monitoring must be separate from required data table.
  2. Supplies are strongly encouraged to report results of voluntary monitoring which may indicate a health concern. EPA considers detects above a proposed MCL or health advisory level to be possible health concerns.
- C. Required Data Table Must Contain:
  1. Contaminants detected in calendar year. List most recent results of detected contaminants that are tested for less frequently than annually (within five years and show the date if earlier than the year covered by the report). Include explanation such as:

Explain significance of the results such as:

*"Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite which is found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although Cryptosporidium can be removed by filtration, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Monitoring of our source water and/or finished water indicates the presence of these organisms. Current test methods do not enable us to determine if these organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals are able to overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people have more difficulty and are at greater risk of developing severe, life threatening illness. Immuno-compromised individuals are encouraged to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to prevent infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested for it to cause disease, and may be passed through other means than drinking water."*

2. Results of radon monitoring, if indicates present in finished water. Explain significance of the results, such as:

*"Radon is a naturally occurring gas present in some ground water. It poses a lung cancer risk when the radon gas is released from water into air (as occurs during showering, bathing, or washing dishes or clothes), and a stomach cancer risk when you drinking water containing radon. Radon gas released from drinking water is a relatively small part of the total radon in air. Other sources of radon gas are soils which enter homes through foundations, and radon inhaled directly while smoking cigarettes. Experts are not sure exactly what the cancer risk is from a given level of radon in your drinking water. If you are concerned about radon in your home, tests are available to determine the total exposure level. For additional information on how to have your home tested contact [insert name of health department or local phone number to obtain test kits]."*

3. Levels of sodium monitored under R 325.10717b(2). Note that sodium levels must be reported, even if not detected.

#### IV. Compliance with National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, NPDR

- A. Note any violation and provide a clearly and readily understandable explanation of the violation including:
  1. The length of the violation.
  2. The potential adverse health effects (if MCL violation).
  3. Actions taken by the system to address the violation.

#### V. Additional Information:

- A. Non-English Speaking Notice (if large non-English speaking populations, i.e., >10%).
- B. Opportunities for Public Participation.
- C. Telephone number of system contact person.
- D. Mandatory language regarding contaminants reasonably expected to be found in drinking water. (§141.153(h)(1)(i) through (iv)).

*"Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)."*

*The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some*

*cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.*

Contaminants that may be present in source water:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

*In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health."*

#### E. Required Additional Health Information.

1. Warning about the vulnerability of some populations to contaminants in drinking water. (§151.154(a)).

*"Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)."*

2. Educational information about arsenic and nitrate if detected at certain levels.

*Arsenic if detected at >0.005mg/L, but ≤0.010mg/L: "While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems."*

*Arsenic if detected >0.01mg/L and ≤0.05mg/L: Include health effects language, "Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer."*

*Nitrate if detected >5mg/L, but <MCL: "Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider."*

3. Educational information about lead if more than 5% but fewer than or equal to 10% of homes sampled exceeded the action level. (5% < # of samples above AL ≤ 10%)

*Lead: "Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you*

*are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)."*

F. State Requirement.

1. Must include health effects language for parameters with vulnerable subpopulations and that are detected above the level of concern.

**VI. Distribution:** Customers must be informed if the report will not be mailed to them, and how to obtain copies, if requested.